

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, one announcement before we begin. The Education Committee, the Transportation Committee and the Business and Labor Committees are holding confirmation hearings at one-fifteen in their respective hearing rooms.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Mr. Clerk, LR 29CA.

CLERK: LR 29CA is on Final Reading. Mr. President, I have a motion, first of all, from Senator Withem. Senator Withem would move to return the resolution to Select File for specific amendment. Senator, I have AM4166 in front of me. (Senator Withem's AM4166 appears on page 1557 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR LINDSAY: Senator Withem.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Mr. President and members of the body, thank the body for its indulgence. Have a motion to return 29CA for purposes of an amendment. That amendment would be to strike language, lines 8 through 10 on page 2, and lines 3 through 5 on page 3. This amendment would have the effect of removing language that says, not withstanding any other provision in the constitution, the Legislature may provide by law for assessments, forfeitures or fines against convicted defendants for restitution for individual victims. The rest of the constitutional amendment would be left intact. Those three lines would be taken out if this amendment were successful. First, let me apologize to Senator Pirsch and other members of the body for the lateness of this amendment. I will admit that during the time that this bill was discussed on General File and Select File I probably didn't pay close enough attention to the impact of the language "assessments, forfeitures or fines", but I guess I would say in some justification this must be what George Norris and the other creators of the Unicameral system had in mind when they insisted that each measure be voted on three separate times prior to its final passage. During the time of debate on this, there was some reference and Senator Chambers indicated to me this morning that he had made reference to this language previously, but the full impact of it didn't really sink in until I was visiting with some folks from the schools community about the importance of the assessment, forfeiture and fine money. Secondly, I'd like to say that Senator Pirsch and I had a couple of discussions on this. Our respective staff members were working together. We had hoped to come up with some language that would allow a new funding source